

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

1. (Currently amended) A device, said device being a gateway and being configured to establish an interface for transmitting data to and receiving data from a packet network, comprising:

a plurality of transceiver units, each of said plural units being operable with variable transfer rates;

a detecting unit configured to detect a load upon said packet network; and

a control unit configured to adjust the transfer rate of said transceiver unit in response to the detected load;

wherein said control unit is configured to provide each of said plurality of transceiver units with different priorities and to adjust the transfer rate of a transceiver unit with a higher priority on a higher value than the transfer rate of a transceiver unit with a lower priority;

wherein said transceiver units comprise a modem for modulating and demodulating non-speech data and a codec for encoding and decoding speech data for voice over Internet protocol;

wherein said control unit is configured to provide said codec with a higher priority than the modem, and

wherein said gateway is operatively disposed between a plurality of networks.

2. (Previously presented) The device of claim 1, wherein said transceiver units comprise a plurality of predetermined transfer rates and said control unit is configured to select one of said predetermined transfer rates in response to said detected load.

3. (Previously presented) The device of claim 1, wherein said control unit is configured to send a test packet to a predetermined destination over said network, receive said test packet back from said predetermined destination and analyze delay that occurred to determine the load on said network.

4. (Previously presented) A method, comprising:
- transmitting data to and receiving data from a packet network;
 - detecting a load on the packet network;
 - adjusting a transfer rate of a plurality of transceiver units in response to said detected load;
 - providing different priorities for each of said plural transceiver units; and
 - adjusting a transfer rate of a transceiver unit with a higher priority with a higher value than the transfer rate of the transceiver unit with a lower priority;
- wherein said transceiver unit comprises a modem for modulating and demodulating non-speech data and a codec for encoding and decoding speech data for voice over Internet protocol, and said codec is provided with a higher priority than the modem; and
- wherein the method is implemented by a gateway that is operatively disposed between a plurality of networks.
5. (Previously presented) The method of claim 4, further comprising:
- selecting, during said adjusting, one of predetermined transfer rates in response to said detected load;
- wherein said transceiver units comprise said plurality of predetermined transfer rates.
6. (Previously presented) The method of claim 4, further comprising:
- sending a test packet to a predetermined destination over said network;
 - receiving said test packet back from said predetermined destination; and
 - analyzing delay that occurs to determine the load on said network.

7. (Previously presented) The device of claim 2, wherein said control unit is configured to send a test packet to a predetermined destination over said network, receive said test packet back from said predetermined destination and analyze delay that occurred to determine the load on said network.

8. (Previously presented) The method of claim 5, further comprising:
sending a test packet to a predetermined destination over said network;
receiving said test packet back from said predetermined destination; and
analyzing delay that occurred to determine the load on said network.

9. (Previously presented) A device, said device being a gateway and being configured to establish an interface for transmitting data to and receiving data from a packet network, comprising:

means for detecting a load on said packet network; and

means for adjusting a transfer rate of a transceiver means in response to said detected load, wherein said transceiver means comprise a plurality of transceiver means;

means for providing different priorities for each of said plurality of transceiver means and for adjusting a transfer rate of a transceiver means with a higher priority on a higher value than the transfer rate of the transceiver means with a lower priority;

where said transceiver means comprises a modem for modulating and demodulating non-speech data and a codec for encoding and decoding speech data for voice over Internet protocol, and said codec is provided with a higher priority than the modem; and

wherein said gateway is operatively disposed between a plurality of networks.